A budgetary provision of Rs. 6.00 crores has been made for promotion of tea by Tea Board for the year 1987-88.

During 1987-88, out of Rs. 6 crores, approximately Rs. 3 crores has been earmarked for promotional activities through Tea Board's overseas offices while the balance amount is for special promotional campaigns in different identified countries. These activities include Uninational Campaign in ARE at a cost of Rs. 25 lakhs and in Saudi Arabia at a cost of Rs. 65 lakhs, Darjeeling Logo Campaign in the U.K. market at a cost of Rs. 60 lakhs, apart from special promotional campaign sanctioned for West Europe, U.S.A., Australia, Japan etc.

These promotional activities and export promotion measures are aimed towards increasing the exports of Indian teas in the coming years.

Decline in India's project exports

*499. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a considerable shortfall in India's project exports during the past few years due to inefficient and outmoded teachnologies adopted by Indian companies; and

(b) if so what steps Government have taken to improve the project exports from our country?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) and (b) In the 1980s, there has been a decline in construction project exports as compared to the earlier years. The decline in construction project exports is attributable to fall in oil revenue in oil rich countries of West Asia and Africa; the war in the Middle-East and foreign exchange problems being faced by many developing countries. While exports of construction proejcts have declined, exports of industrial turnkey and consultancy projects registered an increasing trend.

With a view to boosting exports of projects and consultancy services, the Government has, inter-alia, taken the following measures:

(i) Grant of project assistance to the tune of 10 per cent of net foreign exchange earnings from the services portion of the contracts.

(ii) Market Development Assistance for reimbursement of 50 per cent of cost of preparation and submission of bids.

(iii) Market Development Assistance for opening and operating overseas offices by consultancy firms.

Price stamping on cloth

*500. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to do away with price stamping on cloth; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b) The Textile Commissioner's Notification No. CER|(14)|87-CLB, dated 16th June, 1987, called the Textiles (Consumer Protection) Regulation 1987 was rescinded by Textile Commissioner's Notification No. CER|(19)|88-CLB, dated 7-3-1988.

The Textile Commissioner's Notification No. CER|(18)|88-CLB, dated 7th March, 1988, called the Textile (Consumer Protection) Regulation, 1988, has been published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary dated March 8, 1988. This Regulation is to come into force on 15th June, 1988.

The Regulation of 1988 does not stipulate price stamping of cloth. It was decided to do away with price stamping because experience in the past has been that marking of maximum retail price did not serve the purpose of consumer protection.